

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

July 3, 2003

03-11

### **CREATION OF THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the Defense Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) of 1988, Public Law 100-526 and the Defense Base Realignment and Closure Act of 1990, Public Law 101-510 as amended authorizes the establishment of Commissions to review and recommend to Congress the realignment and/or closure of Department of Defense facilities and operations, and since 1988 such Commissions have recommended the closure of approximately 125 major military facilities and 225 minor military bases and installations as well as the realignment in operations and functions of approximately 145 others; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2002 Defense Authorization Bill, Public Law 107-107 requires a new round of base closure and realignment actions beginning in 2005, and it is estimated that the next round of base closures in 2005 could save \$6 billion a year; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island has substantial naval military assets located in Newport and these naval military assets may be vulnerable to closure or realignment with other operations unless continuation of facility operations can be justified against the criteria that will be used by the 2005 Commission to determine base closure/realignment; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island businesses as well as businesses from surrounding regions that substantially rely upon this state's military assets for their economic growth and continued viability would be adversely affected by base closure or realignment; and

WHEREAS, the complexity of the BRAC process and the importance of protecting Rhode Island's military assets merits the direct participation of the Governor, the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, and the General Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE, I DONALD L. CARCIERI, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby order as follows:

1. There is hereby created a BRAC Commission to direct and coordinate the state's efforts in connection with:
  - a) Conducting a vulnerability assessment of Rhode Island's military assets;
  - b) Examining the 2005 BRAC Commission criteria evaluation process;
  - c) Developing and implementing a plan to protect military assets in the State;
  - d) Pursuing a regional initiative to build a strong military network between Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut that would serve to protect and promote Rhode Island's defense capabilities;
  - e) Exploring future use of military facilities in Rhode Island that may be affected by base closure/realignment
2. The Commission shall be comprised of approximately twelve (12) members or more at the discretion of the Governor and appointed by the Governor. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon the date hereof and shall remain in effect through January 2005.

So Ordered.

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Donald L. Carcieri

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Date